



Embassy of the United States of America
Port Louis, Mauritius

PRESS RELEASE

Inauguration of an addition to the Sainte Croix Community Health Center

Port Louis, May 9, 2013: Today, U.S. Ambassador Shari Villarosa and Minister of Health Lormus Bundhoo inaugurated the new addition to the Sainte Croix Community Health Center. This addition is the result of a collaboration between the Mauritian and the American governments, via the Department of Defense, which provided approximately \$187,000 or Rs 5,500,000 for this project. Ambassador Villarosa said to the neighborhood patrons in attendance, *"we want you to be healthy and strong. I do hope this Community Health Center will do a lot to improve the health and well-being of the people of Sainte-Croix, especially the children."*

With expanded and modern facilities, the Sainte Croix Community Health Center will serve eight surrounding neighborhoods and meet the immediate medical needs of their citizens. Local residents will not have to travel as far for medical care. The next closest facility is approximately 1km away. The Center will provide consultations, wound care, pre- and post-natal services, family planning, and general family practice services. The new construction provides valuable service areas such as two treatment rooms, a dental room, pharmaceutical storage, and an expanded waiting area, among other things. Services will be provided five days a week, helping as many as 200 patients a day. There will be additional doctors, nurses, and a health care assistant working during the normal workday. The Ministry of Health will continue to administer the facility, so the project is sustainable and coordinated.

Ambassador Villarosa also said that this project is one of many assisted by the U.S. Government to serve underserved communities. *"We also assist in other projects through the Ambassador's Special Self-Help Fund."* The Ambassador's Special Self-Help Fund is a grassroots assistance program that assists small community-based projects which are initiated and administered at the local level. *"We, at the United States Embassy, appreciate this very successful collaboration between the governments of the United States and Mauritius"*, said Ambassador Villarosa. Minister of Health, Lormus Bundhoo, thanked the United States for its financial contribution and support. The Sainte Croix Community Health Center was a collaboration between the Ministry of Health and the U.S. Government, via the

PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

U.S. Embassy | 4th Floor, Rogers House, John Kennedy St, Port Louis | Mauritius
Tel: (230) 202 4442 | Fax: (230) 212 2808 | Website: <http://mauritius.usembassy.gov>
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/usembassy.portlouis>

Department of Defense Humanitarian Assistance (HA) program funded by the Overseas Humanitarian, Disaster, and Civic Aid Appropriation (OHDACA) program administered by USAFRICOM.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

U.S. Embassy | 4th Floor, Rogers House, John Kennedy St, Port Louis | Mauritius
Tel: (230) 202 4442 | Fax: (230) 212 2808 | Website: <http://mauritius.usembassy.gov>
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/usembassy.portlouis>